

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) A method for reducing the concentration of an analyte in a blood cell suspension, the method comprising:

(i) providing a starting blood cell suspension in a volume greater than 50 mL, the blood cell suspension comprising blood cells and extracellular fluid; and

(ii) washing the starting blood cell suspension with a wash solution under conditions sufficient to lower the concentration of the analyte at least  $10^3$ -fold relative to the analyte concentration in the starting blood cell suspension, wherein the blood cells of the blood cell suspension retain viability after a storage period of greater than 21 days at 4 °C in a storage solution,

wherein the wash solution contains chloride,

and wherein the concentration of DPG in said blood cell suspension falls to greater than or equal to approximately half of its initial concentration at 21 days.

2. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the washing comprises

(i) centrifuging the starting blood cell composition to form a pelleted cell fraction and a supernatant;

(ii) removing the supernatant from the pelleted cell fraction;

(iii) adding washing solution to the pelleted cell fraction;

(iv) resuspending the pelleted cell fraction in the washing solution to form a resuspended cell suspension; and

- (v) resuspending the pelleted cell fraction in a storage solution.
3. (original) The method of claim 2, wherein the analyte is a small molecule.
  4. (original) The method of claim 3, wherein the small molecule is an ethyleneimine oligomer, phenothiazine derivative, acridine derivative, psoralen derivative or riboflavin.
  5. (original) The method of claim 3, wherein the small molecule is a therapeutic agent.
  6. (withdrawn) The method of claim 2, wherein the analyte is a protein.
  7. (withdrawn) The method of claim 6, wherein the protein is a prion protein.
  8. (withdrawn) The method of claim 7, wherein the prion protein is a pathogenic protein.
  9. (withdrawn) The method of claim 2, wherein the analyte is a cell.
  10. (withdrawn) The method of claim 9, wherein the cell is a leukocyte.
  11. (withdrawn) The method of claim 10, wherein the method further comprises treating the starting blood cell suspension with an anti-pathogenic agent.

12. (withdrawn) The method of claim 11, wherein the anti-pathogenic agent is an ethyleneimine oligomer, phenothiazine derivative, acridine derivative, psoralen derivative or riboflavin.
13. (previously presented) The method of claim 2, wherein said method further comprises repeating steps (i) - (iv).
14. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said method comprises washing the starting blood cell suspension with a wash solution under conditions sufficient to lower the concentration of the analyte at least  $10^4$ -fold relative to the analyte concentration in the starting blood cell suspension.
15. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said method comprises washing the starting blood cell suspension with a wash solution under conditions sufficient to lower the concentration of the analyte at least  $10^5$ -fold relative to the analyte concentration in the starting blood cell suspension.
16. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said method comprises washing the starting blood cell suspension with a wash solution under conditions sufficient to lower the concentration of the analyte at least  $10^6$ -fold relative to the analyte concentration in the starting blood cell suspension.

17. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said method comprises providing a starting blood cell suspension in a volume greater than 100 mL.

18. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said method comprises providing a starting blood cell suspension in a volume greater than 200 mL.

19. (previously presented) The method of claim 15, wherein said method comprises providing a starting blood cell suspension in a volume greater than 100 mL.

20. (previously presented) The method of claim 15, wherein said method comprises providing a starting blood cell suspension in a volume greater than 200 mL.